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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/801,718 Confirmation No. 1887  
Applicant : HIRAIWA, Y. et al.  
Filed : March 17, 2004  
Title : DATA DUPLICATION CONTROL METHOD  
TC/AU : 2185  
Examiner : D.V. Kim  
Docket No. : TSM-36  
Customer No.: 24956

**MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of February 10, 2006, Applicants reply as follows.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Attachments:** certified copy of the corresponding Japanese patent application (JP 2003-423464, filed in Japan on December 19, 2003).